

**MONTANA'S HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE  
REVIEW AND ANALYSIS OF THE  
GOVERNOR'S BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE ON HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE SHORTAGES  
AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MONTANA PRIMARY CARE LIAISON GROUP**  
*Follow up Activities*  
*August 2006*

Primary Care Liaison Group Recommendation	Follow up Actions to Date
<p>1. Develop and implement a comprehensive health care workforce communication plan that will provide effective communication between the health care industry, state agencies, public school systems, institutions of higher education, executive and legislative branches of government, and the public.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCHE appoint a Healthcare Workforce Task Force</li> <li>• Sponsoring conferences and summits of healthcare workforce issues</li> <li>• Disseminate information on the workforce</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Montana Healthcare Workforce Advisory Committee established in May 2006; 1<sup>st</sup> meeting June 19, 2006; next meeting September 6, 2006</li> <li>• Staffed by Montana Office of Rural Health/Area Health Education Center</li> <li>• MT Rural Health Conference will be organized for 2007</li> <li>• Healthcare workforce data featured in "Partners for Health" newsletter (PCA, PCO, ORH/AHEC) and websites of PCA, PCO, DPHHS, ORH/AHEC, DOLI</li> </ul>
<p>2. Develop a comprehensive health care workforce data collection and analysis system that will be used for health systems planning, health professional shortage designations, recruitment and retention incentive programs, academic education planning, continuing education, research and policy making.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a Healthcare Workforce Advisory Council</li> <li>• Develop a comprehensive, efficient, effective system for collecting health professions data, working with licensing boards on a minimum data set</li> <li>• Develop a system for data analysis, tracking supply and demand, trends, and projections</li> <li>• Make data accessible; widely disseminated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MT Healthcare Workforce Advisory Committee formed; will make recommendations to OCHE in fall 2006</li> <li>• Proposals on health professions education (WWAMI, dental education, laboratory science and other professions) have been developed for review</li> <li>• Data Workgroup (DOLI, OCHE, MHA, ORH/AHEC, DPHHS) started meeting in June and is collecting and analyzing data for the MHWAC and SWIB</li> <li>• SWIB formed Healthcare Workforce Committee; several data reports have been presented to the SWIB</li> <li>• Departments working to improve collecting, sharing, and analysis of data</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work underway to develop collaborative system for healthcare workforce data</li> <li>• Workforce data available on several websites</li> </ul>
3. Develop a comprehensive statewide system for health education program planning. The planning process must consider a variety of strategies including alternatives to new program development, new delivery models and educational pathways for health care providers, incentives to existing institutions to participate and comply with the plan, and increased communication between the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE) workforce development committee and health professions programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Montana Healthcare Workforce Advisory Group will be working with OCHE on the statewide planning system</li> <li>• Data work group outcomes are essential to this process</li> </ul>
4. Develop a Montana Center for Rural Health Research & Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Montana State University continues work on establishing a collaborative, statewide Center for the Montana University System</li> </ul>